

4.0 SCOPE AND ROLE OF THE OFFPOST OPERABLE UNIT

Three RMA boundary containment systems currently intercept, treat, and recharge groundwater at the RMA north, northwest, and west boundaries. These boundary systems, along with the physical boundaries of RMA, provide a logical delineation between OUs. Therefore, the FFA divided the work into the following two OUs:

- Onpost OU: Media requiring remediation within the Onpost Study Area (within RMA boundaries)
- Offpost OU: Media requiring remediation within the Offpost Study Area (outside RMA boundaries)

The Offpost OU addresses contamination in the groundwater north and northwest of RMA. As discussed in Section 6.0 of this ROD, ground water contamination in the UFS poses the principal potential threat to human health because of the risks from possible exposure to groundwater.

Although health risks are possible, the estimated risk levels are within the acceptable risk range established by EPA. The purpose of the remedy is to (1) reduce groundwater contaminant concentrations, (2) reduce risk to human health and the environment, and (3) reduce the potential human exposure to contaminated UFS ground water.

The potential risks to ecological receptors were also evaluated. Wildlife are not exposed to contaminated groundwater; therefore, there are no risks to wildlife from the groundwater exposure. Wildlife exposures to soil and surface water and potential livestock exposure to contaminated groundwater were evaluated. However, the potential risks associated with these exposures were shown to be negligible. Therefore, the selected remedy for the Off post OU addresses the reduction of potential human exposure to contaminated UFS groundwater.